

B. REMARKS

By this amendment, Claims 1-21 have been amended. Hence, Claims 1-21 are pending in this application. The amendments to the claims do not add any new matter to this application. All issues raised in the Final Office Action mailed December 30, 2003 are addressed hereinafter.

REJECTION OF CLAIMS 2 AND 9 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112, SECOND PARAGRAPH

In the Final Office Action, Claims 2 and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The basis for the rejection is an inconsistency between the “a computer” program language recited in the preamble of independent Claim 1 and the “one or more computer programs” recited in Claims 2 and 9.

Claims 2 and 9 have been amended as indicated here to address these issues. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 2 and 9, as amended, satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1-21 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

In the Final Office Action Claims 1-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by *Brody*, U.S. Patent No. 5,495,613. It is respectfully submitted that Claims 1-21 are patentable over *Brody* for at least the reasons provided hereinafter.

CLAIM 1

Claim 1, as amended, recites a method for transforming character strings that are contained in computer program source code that requires the steps of:

“automatically parsing the computer program source code to identify a hard coded string that is contained in the computer program source code;
replacing the hard coded string contained in the computer program source code with a macro that is uniquely associated with the hard coded string;
creating and storing in a mapping of macros to strings, an entry that defines an association between the macro and the hard coded string; and
generating and storing in the computer program source code a reference to the mapping of macros to strings.”

Brody describes an editor that includes core commands, macros and transforms that may be used to edit text files, such as computer program source code files. *Brody* describes that some of these commands and macros may be used to replace existing text in a text file with other text. For example, the REPLACE command may be used to replace specified text with other text. As another example, the MACUPCASE macro may be used to convert lowercase text to uppercase text. Thus, the editor of *Brody* could be used to manually locate and replace a hard coded string contained in a computer program source code file with the name of a macro.

It is respectfully submitted that Claim 1 is not anticipated by *Brody* because *Brody* does not teach or suggest “creating and storing in a mapping of macros to strings, an entry that defines an association between the macro and the hard coded string.” The First Office Action mailed on July 23, 2003 asserted that this limitation was taught by *Brody* at Col. 5, lines 47-53 and FIG. 6. This portion of *Brody* describes how system editor 600 receives a transform command and then accesses the compiled code for the transform stored in library 604 by matching the transform command with a list of transform names 602 in the symbol file 606. In this respect, the editor of *Brody* maintains a mapping between transform names 602 in symbol file 606 and compiled code for the corresponding transforms maintained in library 604 to enable the editor to execute the correct compiled code when a command is

entered into the editor. There is no teaching or suggestion in *Brody*, however, of creating an entry that defines an association between a macro name that replaced a hard coded string and the hard coded string itself. For example, suppose that a REPLACE transform of *Brody* is used to replace a hard coded string “ABC” contained in a computer program source code file with a macro named “XXX”. The editor of *Brody* matches the REPLACE command with the list of transform names 602 in symbol file 606, so that the editor can execute the compiled code for the REPLACE command contained in the library 604. *Brody* does not teach or suggest, however, creating an entry in a mapping that defines an association between the macro name “XXX” and the hard coded string that the macro name “XXX” replaced, namely, the hard coded string “ABC”. It is therefore respectfully submitted that the limitation of “creating and storing in a mapping of macros to strings, an entry that defines an association between the macro and the hard coded string” is not taught or suggested by *Brody*.

It is respectfully submitted that *Brody* also does not teach or suggest “generating and storing in the computer program source code a reference to the mapping of macros to strings,” as required by Claim 1. *Brody* does not teach or suggest generating and storing a reference to the mapping of macros to strings in computer program source code that was edited using the editor of *Brody*.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that Claim 1 includes one or more limitations that are not taught or suggested by *Brody* and that Claim 1 is therefore patentable over *Brody*.

CLAIMS 2-6

Claims 2-6 all depend from Claim 1 and include all of the limitations of Claim 1. It is therefore respectfully submitted that Claims 2-6 are patentable over *Brody* for at least the reasons set forth herein with respect to Claim 1. Furthermore, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 2-6 recite additional limitations that independently render them patentable over *Brody*.

CLAIMS 8-13

Claims 8-13 contain limitations similar to Claims 1-6, except in the context of computer-readable media. It is therefore respectfully submitted that Claims 8-13 are patentable over *Brody* for at least the reasons set forth herein with respect to Claims 1-6.

CLAIMS 14-19

Claims 14-19 contain limitations similar to Claims 1-6, except in the context of computer systems. It is therefore respectfully submitted that Claims 14-19 are patentable over *Brody* for at least the reasons set forth herein with respect to Claims 1-6.

CLAIMS 7, 20 AND 21

Claim 7 As set forth herein with respect to Claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that *Brody* does not teach or suggest “creating and storing in a mapping of macros to strings, an entry that defines an association between the macro and the hard coded string.” It is also respectfully submitted that *Brody* does not teach or suggest “creating and storing in a macro file a macro definition that defines an association between the macro and the hard coded string,” as required by Claim 7. For example, once a command, macro or transform has been used to replace original text contained in a text file with replacement text, e.g., using a

REPLACE command, *Brody* does not in any way teach or suggest creating a storing a macro definition that defines an association between the replacement text and the original text. It is therefore respectfully submitted that the limitation of “creating and storing in a macro file a macro definition that defines an association between the macro and the hard coded string” is not in any way taught or suggested by *Brody*.

It is also respectfully submitted that *Brody* does not teach or suggest “referencing the macro definition in the computer program source code using a compiler directive that causes a compiler to include the macro file during compilation of the computer program source code,” as required by Claim 7. There is no teaching or suggestion in *Brody* that after a command, macro or transform is used to replace original text in a text file with replacement text, that a compiler directive is used in the text file to reference the macro definition so that a compiler will include the macro file during compilation. It is therefore respectfully submitted that *Brody* does not teach or suggest the limitation of “referencing the macro definition in the computer program source code using a compiler directive that causes a compiler to include the macro file during compilation of the computer program source code.” In view of the foregoing it is respectfully submitted that Claim 7 includes one or more limitations that are not in any way taught or suggested by *Brody* and that Claim 7 is therefore patentable over *Brody*.

Claims 20 and 21 recite limitations similar to Claim 7, except in the context of a computer-readable medium and an apparatus, respectively. It is therefore respectfully submitted that Claims 20 and 21 are patentable over *Brody* for at least the reasons set forth herein with respect to Claim 7.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 1-21 are patentable over *Brody* and are in condition for allowance. Hence, issuance of a notice of allowance is respectfully requested. If there are any additional charges, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 50-1302.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if the Examiner believes that such contact would be helpful in furthering the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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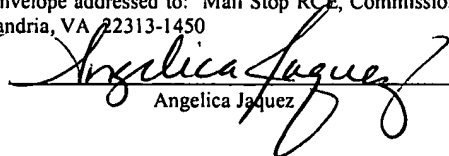
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On February 27, 2004

By


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